



Minnesota's 4th District **E-Report!**

Congresswoman Betty McCollum

"Serving Minnesota's Families"



JANUARY 16, 2004

Hot News!

Minnesota National Guard Troops Deployed

Approximately 100 soldiers from the Minnesota Army National Guard's 1256th Air Ambulance Medical Company based in St. Paul were deployed this week to military bases throughout the United States for a one year assignment.

In a letter to troops and their families, Rep. Betty McCollum stated, "Your contributions and service are incredibly important to our nation, and you should be very proud of your dedication to our country. Your determination and hard work are great assets to our armed forces and demonstrate an exceptional commitment to your community, the state of Minnesota and the United States."

The Minnesota servicemen and women will travel to Fort Hood, Texas and will be taking responsibility for helicopter medical evacuations during stateside U.S. Army training exercises. They are relieving the Georgia National Guard of this mission and are expected to return in January, 2005.

The 1256th Air Ambulance Medical Company specializes in the evacuation and in-flight treatment of patients.

Of the 12,500 Minnesota Army and Air National Guard members, 3,600 are now on active duty. The majority of these soldiers and airmen are either deployed overseas or preparing for overseas deployment.



Rep. Betty McCollum recently joined senior citizens at Cottage Villas of Arden Hills for coffee to discuss a variety of issues. McCollum heard from seniors about President Bush's Medicare overhaul bill signed into law last year. Seniors voiced concerns about the legislation's impact on their drug costs and health care benefits.

The Week Ahead

The U.S. House of Representatives convenes next week to begin the second half of the 108th Congress' legislative session.

Tuesday, January 20 President Bush delivers the annual State of the Union address.

Rep. Betty McCollum will hear from students at Roseville Area High School on **Friday, January 23** in response to the President's speech. The students are viewing and responding to the State of the Union address for class credit.

Contact Congresswoman Betty McCollum . . . www.house.gov/mccollum/contact.html

Washington Office: 1029 Longworth HOB, Washington, DC 20515 ♦ phone / (202) 225-6631 ♦ fax / (202) 225-1968

St. Paul Office: 165 Western Ave. N., #17, St. Paul, MN 55102 ♦ phone / (651) 224-9191 ♦ fax / (651) 224-3056

Prepared at government expense.